

The good people of Deerfield, Mass., desiring to pay a tribute to the memory of Miss Martha Platt, a woman loved by all her townspeople, put aside all suggestion that a marble shaft be erected and instead chose a library and club-room. The building has been thrown open to the public and has come to be an important feature in the life of this Massachusetts town. The best monument to any worthy man or woman takes the form of something that will contribute to the welfare, the happiness and general advancement of the living.

Two hymns, "Nearer my God to Thee" and "Lead, Kindly Light" have recently attracted universal attention because of their association with the late president. The first named hymn was written by Sarah Flower Adams in 1845. She was a member of the English Unitarian church. The hymn was first set to the music of an air that had no hope of ever becoming popular and in 1860 Dr. Lowell Mason gave to the sublime words the equally sublime music to which it is now sung. "Lead Kindly Light" was written in 1833 by John Henry Newman, then an Episcopalian clergyman but later a Roman Catholic priest and finally one of the famous Cardinals of that church.

A Chicago society, composed of women, has decided to open a winter refuge for sick and homeless cats. A large barn will be rented, fitted with steam heating apparatus and placed in charge of attendants who will see to it that the feline inmates are properly cared for during the winter. This will cost several thousand dollars, and while it does credit to the humane instincts of the women it does poor credit to their judgment. More humans than cats will suffer from cold and hunger in Chicago this winter. While human beings are starving and freezing to death it is a poor time to waste thousands of dollars in providing a comfortable home for stray cats.

Joseph Lawrence, a member of parliament, recently visited the United States and on his return to England made an interesting report to the Newport Chamber of Commerce. The Springfield, (Mass.) Republican says Mr. Lawrence told his audience that Charles M. Schwab assured him that the steel trust could deliver steel billets in England for \$16.50 per ton, whereas the lowest price for which British manufacturers could make them was \$19.00. Mr. Schwab also informed him, Mr. Lawrence said, that, when the trust had completed certain ocean transportation arrangements now pending, the American price would be still lower. In addition to this statement, Mr. Schwab called the attention of Mr. Lawrence to the fact that his steel workers got double the wages paid British workmen in the same line. The

steel trust charges Americans from \$26.00 to \$27.00 a ton. According to Mr. Lawrence the steel trust could, and the inference is that it would, sell steel in England for \$16.50 per ton which is about \$10.00 less than the trust charges the American consumer and which is also \$2.50 per ton less than the English manufacturers charge the English consumer. Such figures as these speak for themselves. They are, however, not a new variety of figures to the American people. It is strange that the people have not long ago awakened to the imposition that has been put upon them.

Twenty years ago R. F. Wolfe emerged from the Jefferson, Ind., penitentiary, where he had served a five years' sentence for assault with intent to kill. While confined in jail on a false charge he attempted to escape and in so doing assaulted a guard, but with no intent to kill. While in the penitentiary he learned to make shoes, and when discharged he went to Columbus, Ohio, and worked at a shoemaker's bench. He invented some shoe machinery, used his energy and his talents and is today president of the National Shoe Company. Men who knew of his prison record tried to blackmail him. In self-defense Mr. Wolfe wrote a history of his life, suppressing nothing, and gave it to the newspapers a few days ago, thus blocking the efforts of blackmailers. His moral victory is greater than his financial victory, and today all right-minded men think more of him for his courage and candor.

A resident of the District of Columbia, writing to the Washington Times suggests that Valley Forge be converted into a national park. Valley Forge is not a great distance from the city of Philadelphia and the Times' correspondent has the following on the matter:

"Here General Washington, in command of the American army during the revolution, suffered most and passed through the darkest period of the revolution. It was in October, 1777, when the American army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge and spent the long and desolate winter in gloom and suffering. Many were without shoes and clothing, and all without sufficient food. Many of the soldiers in their marches over the frozen ground left blood in their tracks. Some of the patriots sat up by the fires at night rather than to cover with sheets of ice and rest their heads on pillows of snow. It was during this period of suffering and anxiety that the nefarious 'Conway cabal' was hatched. Washington, to overcome all of this, must have been a Fabius and his men made of steel and iron. This handful of American patriots at Valley Forge evidenced to the world the indomitable courage and determination of American valor to secure independence at any price. Had the army quartered at Valley Forge during the winter of 1777-78 given up in despair the American cause would have been lost."

It is suggested that the preservation of this historic spot in the form of a national park would be "a reminder to posterity of American independence and would inspire future generations to nobler deeds and greater achievements." This appears to be a worthy suggestion. The

American people will do well to keep ever in mind the sacrifices which the fathers made in laying the foundation of the government under which we live. If we appreciate these historic sacrifices we will be slow to do anything that will tend to destroy or weaken the form of government bequeathed to us by the men who laid the foundations.

Congressman Sherman of New York, announces in an interview: "I am opposed to government ownership of the 'Encouraging' Trans-Pacific cable, but I think there should be no delay in the construction of a private cable encouraged by the government. The necessity for direct communication with Hawaii and the Philippine Islands is imperative. We must have the cable and have it right away." Is it not strange that Mr. Sherman should be so vigorously opposed to government ownership of this cable while at the same time he is enthusiastically in favor of a "private cable encouraged by the government?" This word "encouraged" covers a multitude of political sins. In this instance it means that the government shall pay for the cable in the form of subsidy, but that individuals, high in the favor of the Republican party, shall own the cable after the government foots the bill. If there are good reasons why the government should not own this cable, then there are good reasons why the government should not pay for the construction of this cable. If it is proper that individuals should own the cable, then it is also proper that individuals should pay for the thing which they desire to own.

The summer season is on in South Africa and Kitchener has asked for 25,000 more men. And this for the purpose of increasing an army of 200,000 to 225,000 in order to subdue a handful of Dutch farmers who are fighting for home and liberty. Where will Great Britain get the 25,000 men? Volunteering has declined to nothing. Will Great Britain have to resort to the draft? The South African war has been in progress more than two years. The strongest kingdom in the world has been pitted against two of the smallest republics. Yet today the men of the republics are holding their own, while the great kingdom is at its wits end to provide men and money enough to keep the fight going on. British greed has sacrificed the lives of 10,000 English subjects on the veldts and kops of the Transvaal. Thousands more will be sacrificed in the future. For what? A few paltry gold and diamond mines. And this great republic has not only neglected its duty to a people struggling for freedom, but has lent its tacit aid and support to the nation that seeks to lower the flags of two republics and extend to their territory the rule of a crown.

These cool evenings would be a good time for Attorney General Knox to study President Roosevelt's Minneapolis Labor Day speech.